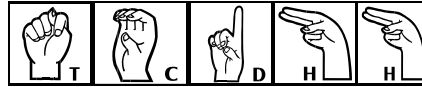


TCDHH



November 2008

Volume 1, Issue 2



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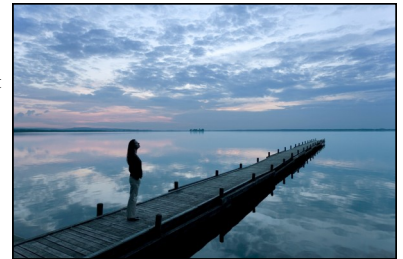
Mental Health News

Thom Roberts attended the Tennessee Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Convention in Memphis on September 26th and 27th. They were promoting appropriate service to the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind Communities. Professional conference interpreters were provided as well as speakers who spoke on appropriate cultural and linguistic care for clients. Thom gave statistical information to those who attended and then challenged them to do something with this knowledge. His presentation was titled, "Shaken Not Stirred; a Sobering View of Mental Health Services for the Deaf Community".

The Memphis NAMI Chapter has submitted a proposal to get grant money to establish peer counseling via video phone for any one who would like to chat in ASL. Once this grant is awarded, they will look to hire someone who is Deaf. This has never been done before, yet it is very much needed.

The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) will be able to begin the process of establishing the new organization which is temporarily dubbed the National Coalition on Mental Health and Deafness (NCMHD). This will bring the need for appropriate services to the Deaf Community to a national level. The International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership (IIMHL) agreed to include a subgroup on international mental health and deafness. Representatives from various countries have been nominated for the deafness subgroup. This brings the focus to the international level.

Please continue to contact your local mental health facilities to see what they can do to make their services fully accessible to the Deaf Community. Deaf people are not Hearing people with broken ears. Hiring an interpreter is good for communication, but the cultural issue still remains unsettled. Appropriate diagnostic tests designed for those who are deaf and cultural values of Deaf Community must be a requirement for accessibility. Without these integral parts, successful recovery is doubtful.



COUNCIL MEMBERS

Andrea Cooper
Dana Hughes, Chair
Paulette Melton, Vice Chair
Kim Dance
Michael Friedman
Lisa Godfrey
Deborah Harris
Alan Mealka
Laurie Pullins
Lordy Smith
Lygia Williams

Thanksgiving History

During the American Revolution a yearly day of national thanksgiving was suggested by the Continental Congress. In 1817 New York State adopted Thanksgiving Day as an annual custom, and by the middle of the 19th century many other states had done the same. In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln appointed a day of thanksgiving as the last Thursday in November, which he may have correlated it with the November 21, 1621 anchoring of the *Mayflower* at Cape Cod.



Since then, each president has issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation. President Franklin D. Roosevelt set the date for Thanksgiving to the fourth Thursday of November in 1939 (approved by Congress in 1941).

Introductions (& Congratulations)

We would like to congratulate Jessica Harrison at the Communication Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Johnson City. She has worked with CCDHH as an interpreter since April 2007, and was promoted to Program Coordinator this past October.



Johnson City's Deaf Awareness Banquet

I was honored to be able to attend and speak at the Deaf Awareness Banquet held in Johnson City on October 11, 2008. The Deaf Community there welcomed me with open arms (literally) and it felt like I was coming home again. This event was organized by the Northeast Tennessee Deaf Activities group (NETDA) who did an outstanding job. The theme of the night was the 1950's. People came dressed in jeans, t-shirts, poodle skirts, and in hair gel! There were displays filled with pictures to remember their activities, members of NETDA, and those who have passed away. Many thanks to Nancy Ward and her NETDA group!

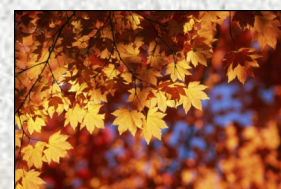
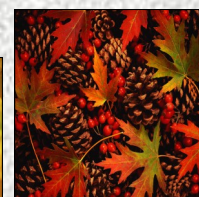
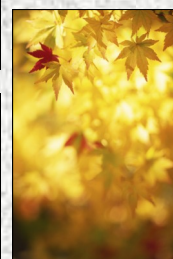
Thom Roberts, TCDHH Executive Director



TCDHH Council Mini Minutes

August 8, 2008

- Interpreters rates have been increased. Vocational Rehabilitation is now paying \$47.00 an hour for certified interpreters and \$25.00 an hour for non-certified interpreters.
- University of Tennessee's Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology had been cited for closure. (Update: this department has been saved and will continue, thanks to you).
- Dana Hughes has been elected as Chair for the Tennessee Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Paulette Melton was once again, elected as Vice Chair.
- At the beginning of the 2008 fiscal year, The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation had nearly 10,000 on the waiting list. At the end of the fiscal year, there were 4,888 on the list. PC2 had 2,138, PC3 had 2,493, and PC4 had 257.



TCDHH Executive Director's Report

August 8, 2008

August

- 12 Legislature Sub-Committee Hearing on TCDHH regarding the Sunset Law
- 14 Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network (TSPN) Regional Mtg
- 26 LDHH Open House Welcoming Sallie Hussey
- 29 TRC Graduation Doug Hardman from National Deaf Academy

September

- 11 Preferred Alternatives, Inc. Neill Guy met with Lygia Williams and me regarding mental health services for the Deaf Community.
- 12-14 Tennessee Association of Professional Interpreters and Translators Annual Conference
- 16 Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting
- 18-19 TSPN Symposium
- 23 Deaf Deaf World sponsored by LDHH
- 25-27 National Alliance on Mental Illness State Convention, Memphis.

October

- 8 Disability Determination Services-TTY and Relay Training
- 11 Northeast Tennessee Deaf Activities, "Deaf Awareness Banquet"
- 14 TSPN-Intra-State Departmental Meeting
- 18 CelSign (Celebration of Sign Language)
- 21-25 Southeast Regional Institute on Deafness, Atlanta, Georgia
- 28 Next Talk demonstration; video phone on computers.


**Links**

ADA information
www.ada.gov

Alcohol & Drug Council of Middle Tennessee
www.adcmt.org

American Sign Language Teachers Association
www.aslta.org

Deaf Education
www.deafed.net

Deaflympics
www.deaflympics.com

Dogs for the Deaf
www.dogsforthedeaf.org

Explanation of transcribing services
www.typewell.com

Gallaudet University
www.gallaudet.edu
Gate Communications
www.gatecommunications.org

Giving Matters.com
www.givingmatters.com
Hearing Loss Association of America - Nashville Chapter (Formerly Self Help for the Hard of Hearing)
www.nashhhville.org

Hearing Loss Association of America - National
www.hearingloss.org

Information about a newspaper for the Deaf
www.deafnewspaper.com

Knoxville Center of the Deaf
www.kcdtn.org

Library Services for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (Tennessee)
www.tndeaflibrary.nashville.gov

Mockingbird Community and Retirement Center
www.mockingbirdcenter.org

Nashville Sertoma Club
www.nashvillesertomaclub.org

And More Links

National Association for the Deaf
www.nad.org

National Association of Judicial Interpreters and Translators
www.najit.org

Nashville Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf www.ntrid.org

Postsecondary Education Programs Network www.pepnet.org

Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (national) www.rid.org

Social Security Administration
www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices/

Southeastern Regional Institute on Deafness www.serid.org

TENnderCare www.tennessee.gov/tenncare/tenndercare

Tennessee Association of Professional Interpreters and Translators
www.tapit.org

Tennessee Association of the Deaf
www.deaftennesseean.org

Tennessee Council of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing www.tennessee.gov/humanserv/rehab/cc6.htm

Tennessee Disability MegaConference
www.tndisabilitymegaconference.org

Disability Law and Advocacy Center of Tennessee
www.dlactn.org

Tennessee School for the Deaf
<http://tsdeaf.org>

The Interpreters Friend
www.theinterpretersfriend.com

United Way of Metropolitan Nashville
www.unitedwaynashville.org

United Way of Clarksville-Montgomery County
www.unitedwayofclarksville.org

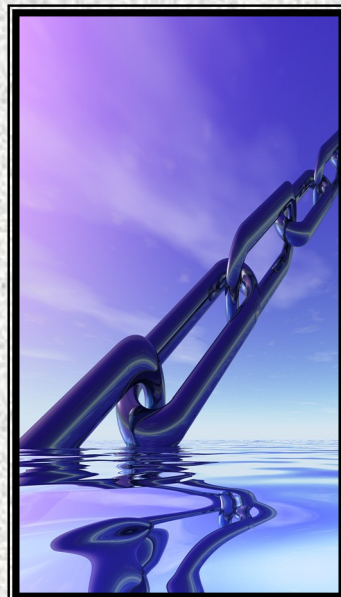
United Way of Williamson County
www.uwvc.org

Did You Know?

Statistics prove that deaf people live longer than hearing people.

Deaf people have safer driving records than hearing people nation-

American Sign Language is the third most widely used language in the United States.



**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES**

Tennessee Council for the Deaf
and Hard of Hearing
Citizens Plaza Building, 14th Floor
400 Deaderick Street
Nashville, TN 37243

Phone: (615) 313-4918
Fax: (615) 532-4685
TTY: (615) 313-5695
Email: Thom.Roberts@state.tn.us

<http://tennessee.gov/humanserv/rehab/cc6.htm>



*Activities at the League for the Deaf and
Hard of Hearing
October 2008*



Our thanks to Joe Francis, Frank Rushing, and Helen Rushing (L-R) for allowing us to use their photograph in this publication.

Upcoming Events



November

- Direct Learn will host their next **Supporting Dear People** online conference on January 28 - 31st. For more info: www.online-conference.net/sdp2009/introduction.htm



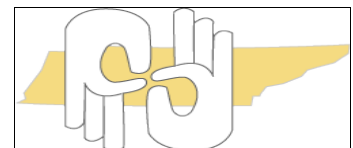
- Dollywood** to host **Deaf Awareness Day**, December 2, 2008. For more information: aadams@dollywood.com

- KCD to host the **UT-KCD Interpreters Conference & Deaf Artisans**. November 30 - December 1, 2008. For more information: britten-house@kcdtn.org.



- You are invited to **Hearing Loss Association of America's Convention 2009**, June 18 - 21, 2009 at Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville. For details, visit www.hearingloss.org





TRID Conference 2009, May 8-9, 2009 in Chattanooga. For more information: www.tnrid.org/conference

